

**NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AND CONSUMER SERVICES**
Veterinary Division
Raleigh, North Carolina

VETERINARY DIVISION NOTICE	1-07	10-8-07
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Sheep and Goat Importation Requirements

- I. Purpose:** This directive provides all parties interested in shipping sheep and goats into North Carolina with the specific guidelines that are hereby required by NCDA & CS.

After extensive review of import requirements for sheep and goats in all fifty states, import requirements in states bordering North Carolina, and discussions with USDA/APHIS/VS national brucellosis and tuberculosis epidemiologists, the conclusion was reached that the current import requirement policy for sheep and goats for North Carolina place an undue and unnecessary hardship on producers and the policy is in need of updating. This policy was developed with careful consideration to the overall health and safety of the entire North Carolina livestock industry.

- II. Cancellation:** none

- III. References:** 02 NCAC (North Carolina Administrative Code) 52B.0208 and 52B.0209
NC General Statutes 106-400, 106-401, and 106-402

- IV. Definitions:**

“Livestock” means any hoofed animal, to include bovines, sheep, goats, swine, camelids, and horses and other members of the Equidae family.

- V. Procedures:**

- 1) All sheep and goats imported into the state, regardless of age, must be officially identified prior to leaving the farm of origin (see "Official scrapie identification," below), except:
 - a. Sheep and goats less than 12 months of age moving directly to slaughter
 - b. Sheep and goat wethers,
- 2) Sheep and goats consigned for the purpose of immediate slaughter to a livestock market licensed under G.S. 106, Article 35, or to a slaughtering establishment with state or federal inspection may be imported without a health certificate. A waybill or certificate marked for immediate slaughter must accompany such shipments. No sheep or goats consigned for immediate slaughter may be removed from slaughter channels.
- 3) Sheep and goats not consigned for the purpose of immediate slaughter must be accompanied by an official health certificate from the state of origin signed by a veterinarian accredited in that state.
 - a. The health certificate covering the importation of sheep and goats shall include a report of inspection indicating the sheep and goats are not under quarantine and are free from signs of any infectious or communicable disease.
 - b. The health certificate shall contain a statement that the flock of origin has not had scrapie diagnosed within the past 42 months. The health certificate shall include USDA approved scrapie identification, age, sex, breed and markings for each animal.

Official scrapie identification shall consist of one of the following:

- a. Official ear tags which are approved by USDA, APHIS for use in the Scrapie Eradication Program or the Scrapie Flock Certification Program
- b. Electronic implants:
 - (i) which are approved for use in animals participating in a scrapie

- flock certification program (SFCP) and when accompanied by a certificate of veterinary inspection or owner statement that includes the implant numbers and name of the chip manufacturer; or
- (ii) which are used in animals registered with a national registry association and the implant number is recorded by the registry on the registration certificate accompanying the animal; and
 - (iii) the animal is accompanied by an implant reader which can read the implant in the animal.
- c. Legible official registry tattoos that have been recorded in the record of a sheep or goat registry association when the animal is accompanied by either a registration certificate or certificate of veterinary inspection upon which the tattoo number is recorded.
- 4) Sheep and goats not consigned for the purpose of immediate slaughter that originate from USDA Certified and Accredited Free States are exempt from Brucellosis and Tuberculosis testing requirements. Sheep and goats that do not originate from a USDA Certified and Accredited Free State shall have a negative brucellosis test within 30 days prior to import, and shall have a negative tuberculosis test within 60 days prior to import unless they originate from a USDA Certified and Accredited Free Herd.
 - 5) Dairy goats and sheep over six months of age and sexually intact imported from out-of-state shall have a negative brucellosis test within 30 days prior to import, and shall have a negative tuberculosis test within 60 days prior to import unless they originate from a USDA Certified and Accredited Free Herd.
 - 6) The brucellosis and tuberculosis testing requirements of this Rule shall not apply to sheep and goats entering the state for only exhibition purposes, coming from states or herds that are USDA Certified and Accredited Free, when accompanied by an official health certificate which shall include a USDA approved scrapie identification. Such animals shall remain in the state for exhibition purposes for no more than 30 days from the date of issuance of the health certificate.

Dr. David Marshall
State Veterinarian

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SUBJECT CATEGORY:
Livestock Movement into NC